

Remarks

The Examiner's allowance of claims 13 – 17 is noted with appreciation.

The Examiner's further notice that claims 2, 4-8 and 10-12 would be allowable if amended to independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims is also noted with appreciation.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3 and 9 and those claims have been cancelled in this amendment.

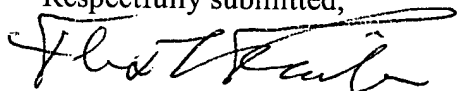
Claim 2 has been amended to incorporate all of the limitations of claim 1 from which it depended and the applicants therefore respectfully suggest that the Examiner's objection to claim 2 has been overcome by this amendment and claim 2 is now allowable. Claims 5 and 12 have been amended to now properly depend from claim 2 and are therefore also believed to be allowable.

Claim 4 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 3 from which it previously depended and further made dependent on newly amended claim 2. The applicants therefore respectfully suggest that the Examiner's objection to claim 4 is overcome by this amendment.

Claims 5-8, and 10-11 are now also believed to be allowable based on the amendment to claim 2 from which they ultimately depend.

Based on the amendments made herein, the applicants believe that all claims now pending in the application are in condition for allowance and action by the Examiner in that regard is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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